

# **Charter of the Nuclear Sector Government Coordinating Council**

---

## **1. Official Designation**

The official designation of this Council is the "Nuclear Government Coordinating Council," hereinafter referred to as the "NGCC".

## **2. Objective**

The NGCC enables interagency, intergovernmental, and cross-jurisdictional coordination within and across sectors and partners with the sector coordinating councils, as identified in Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-21 on "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience."<sup>1</sup> The NGCC is composed of representatives from across various levels of government as appropriate to their respective function and operating landscape.

## **3. Scope of Activity**

The NGCC coordinates strategies, activities, policies, and communications across governmental entities within the sector, and also reaches out across the national partnership structure defined in *NIPP 2013: Partnering for Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience*<sup>2</sup> and other policy documents in coordination with and in support of the Nuclear Sector Coordinating Council (NSCC). The scope of activity of the NGCC includes, but is not limited to:

- Commercial nuclear reactors for generating electrical power and non-power nuclear reactors used for research, testing, and training;
- Nuclear and other radioactive materials in medical, industrial, and academic settings, and facilities that fabricate nuclear fuel;
- The transportation, storage, and disposal of nuclear and other radioactive materials and waste;
- Serve as the Nuclear Sector Specific Agency's (SSA) interagency strategic communications coordinator at the sector level through partnership with DHS and other supporting agencies across various levels of government;
- Participate in planning related to the development, implementation, update, or revision of the NIPP or the Nuclear Sector-Specific Plan;
- Work together to promote continuous improvement of security and resilience efforts within the sector as national and sector goals and priorities are addressed;
- Promote adoption and implementation of physical and cyber risk management processes, best practices, and use of innovative methods across the sector during implementation of the Cybersecurity Framework;
- Identify and support the information-sharing capabilities and mechanisms that are most appropriate for state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) entities; and
- Coordinate with and support the efforts of the sector to plan, implement, and execute the

---

<sup>1</sup> For the text of PPD-21, released February 12, 2013, see: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/02/12/presidential-policy-directive-critical-infrastructure-security-and-resil>.

<sup>2</sup> For the text of NIPP 2013, see: [http://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIPP%202013 Partnering%20for%20Critical%20Infrastructure%20Security%20and%20Resilience 508 0.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIPP%202013%20Partnering%20for%20Critical%20Infrastructure%20Security%20and%20Resilience%20508%200.pdf).

Nation's critical infrastructure security and resilience mission; establish sector goals and priorities and report on the progress made for addressing them as well as the applicable Joint National Priorities.

The NGCC will accomplish its primary functions through the following essential activities:

- *Identifying sector issues that require public-private coordination and communication:* The NGCC will bring together diverse government interests to identify and develop collaborative national strategies that advance the critical infrastructure security and resilience mission. The NGCC will support the policies, processes/protocols and technology that enable the sharing of this information among government and private sector entities, as well as international partners.
- *Identifying and assessing sector interdependencies, vulnerabilities, and opportunities for increasing the sector's resiliency:* The NGCC will help to build national awareness on issues related to the protection and resilience of Nuclear Sector infrastructure affected by large-scale disasters caused by a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other incidents.
- *Identifying and promoting successful programs and practices which contribute to the development of a sustainable and resilient national infrastructure:* The NGCC will facilitate the sharing of experiences, ideas, lessons learned and innovative approaches related to the security, and protection of critical infrastructure.
- *Identifying and committing resources:* The NGCC will spearhead efforts to leverage resources within government and between government and other stakeholders that further the development of consistent, sustainable, effective and measurable sector-wide security enhancement programs and initiatives.

#### **4. Membership**

##### **4.1 Permanent Members**

NGCC membership is comprised of government agencies with nuclear and radiological security and/or emergency management responsibilities. Membership in the NGCC will be periodically evaluated and if necessary offered to additional organizations as required. Permanent membership resides with the agency rather than the agency representatives. NGCC permanent membership includes voting and non-voting agency members. Primary agency representatives named to the NGCC are director/manager-level, or equivalent. Each agency will determine agency attendance and representation as required or limited due to operational commitments.

Voting Members:

- Department of Energy (DOE)
- DOE/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Department of State (DOS)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) Inc.
- Organization of Agreement States (OAS)

##### **4.2 Ad-Hoc Members**

The NGCC may also include individuals serving as designated liaisons from other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) components and directorates, other sector and cross-sector GCCs, and other government agencies that are invited to participate in NGCC meetings and



activities as ad-hoc, non-voting members to provide relevant institutional knowledge and technical expertise.

The following agencies are ad hoc members of the NGCC:

- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO)
- Customs and Border Protection (CBP)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

#### **4.3 Ex Officio Members**

The NGCC may also extend non-voting ex officio membership. Such membership will be based on the current needs of the NGCC and may be withdrawn at any time at the determination of the NGCC.

The following are ex officio members of the NGCC:

- Department of Defense (DOD)/Homeland Defense & Americas Security Affairs
- Department of Defense (DOD)/US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM)
- Department of Defense (DOD)/Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)
- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Government Coordinating Council (SLTTGCC)

### **5. Governance**

NGCC members utilize a consultative process, encourage the exchange of information and points of view, and strive for consensus. The NGCC recognizes that each member represents a government entity or organization with mission and parameters within which it must operate. At times, an agency's mission may restrict a member's ability to agree with a potential decision. Under such circumstance, the member should communicate the applicable reasons, justifications or perspectives clearly to the other NGCC members so they may consider the information before deciding on a path forward. When there is dissension, the NGCC may, nevertheless, move forward under the leadership of the co-chair and take action to fulfill the obligations of the Council, as long as such action falls within the existing legal bounds and mandates of the NGCC. NGCC members will strive to meet timelines and deliverables to the extent practical, even when there is less than full agreement.

NGCC representatives should champion the position of their individual government agencies; however, the NGCC recognizes that representatives may lack legal authority to act on behalf of their agencies. Therefore, the actions of individual NGCC representatives are not binding on any member.

### **6. Roles and Responsibilities**

The NGCC is chaired by the DHS - Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection or his/her designee, the Director of the Sector Outreach and Programs Division, who may designate an alternate to assist him/her and/or act on his/her behalf, as necessary. The chair will initiate or collect issues from other members and bring issues to the NGCC for consideration and deliberation. They will monitor and assure that initiatives or issues are brought to closure.

The NGCC will strive for consensus; however, in cases where consensus cannot be achieved, a vote of the NGCC may be called. Each voting member that is signatory to this charter and is represented at the time of the vote may cast a vote. However, due to the voluntary nature of the NGCC framework, actions taken by the NGCC are not binding on any specific member.

## **7. Sub-councils**

The NGCC may charter sub-councils to address specific issues or subsectors. Sub-councils are subordinate to the NGCC and report their activities to the NGCC.

## **8. Working Groups and Focus Groups**

Working groups or focus groups may be established when substantial investigation, research or other tasks are required which cannot be practicably achieved at regular NGCC sessions. All products of the working groups or focus groups are meant to advise NGCC members on various issues and processes. Through their primary or alternate representatives, each member may designate individuals to serve on working groups or focus groups, including acting as group leads.

When the NGCC and NSCC form joint working groups or focus groups, the identified NGCC working group or focus group lead will work in close coordination with the NSCC working group or focus group lead.

## **9. Number and Frequency of Meetings**

The NGCC will meet quarterly with additional scheduled meetings and/or conference calls as needed.

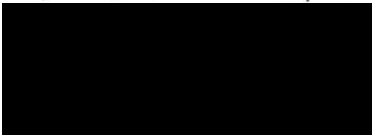
## **10. Modification of Charter**

The charter may be modified by affirmative signature vote, of a quorum of the voting members.

List of NGCC Signatories as of February 3, 2015




Director,  
Sector Outreach and Programs Division,  
Office of Infrastructure Protection,  
Department of Homeland Security



Associate Administrator for Hazardous  
Materials Safety,  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
Administration,  
U.S. Department of Transportation



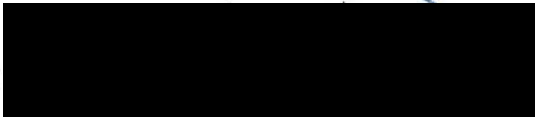
Director,  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident  
Response,  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Director,  
Radiation Protection Division,  
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air,  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



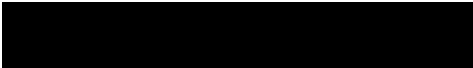
Director,  
Office of Security Assistance,  
Office of Environment, Health, Safety,  
and Security, Department of Energy



Assistant Director,  
Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



Associate Assistant Deputy Administrator  
for Global Threat Reduction,  
National Nuclear Security Administration,  
Department of Energy



Chair,  
Conference of Radiation Control Program  
Directors Inc.



Director,  
Office of Nuclear Energy, Safety and  
Security,  
Bureau of International Security and  
Nonproliferation  
U.S. Department of State



Chair,  
Organization of Agreement States

## **ANNEX A**

### **Standard Operating Procedures**

#### **Quorum and Decision-Making**

A quorum for decision-making is defined as consisting of at least one representative from a majority of voting members.

#### **Process**

Council meeting procedures will follow Robert's Rules of Order. NGCC members will make decisions through a consultative process, encouraging the exchange of information and points of view, and will strive for consensus.

#### **Principles of Participation**

- All members will work towards the same goals and purposes of improving the protection and resilience of Nuclear Sector assets.
- All members need to participate in order to achieve the Council's objective.
- Discussion and deliberation processes must recognize and take advantage of each member's strengths, skills, and perspective.
- Results of NGCC discussions and deliberations should constitute a coherent voice made up of each member's contributions.
- Discussions and deliberations will be honest and forthright.

#### **Observers**

NGCC members may invite observers to attend NGCC meetings. Members extending an invitation should notify the Nuclear SSA of the invitation in advance of the meeting.

#### **Closed Session**

NGCC members may elect, by majority vote, to close meetings to all but permanent voting members.